
August 2010

Dear Health-care Professional:

In preparation for the upcoming influenza season, I want to take the opportunity to provide an update on the status of Fluzone®, Influenza Virus Vaccine production and shipping.

Fluzone vaccine has been licensed for the 2010-2011 season and sanofi pasteur is working at maximum capacity to fulfill commitments to our valued customers. We remain on track to deliver over 70 million doses of Fluzone vaccine to US health-care providers this season. While we are on track to deliver your full reservation this season, we want to make you aware of a recent development that has resulted in an approximate 2-3 week delay in the delivery of your Fluzone vaccine shipment.

In mid-July, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) made us aware that after completing a review of the 'latex-free' claim made by the supplier of multiple influenza vaccines' syringe tip caps, it concluded there was insufficient documentation to support that claim. As a result, the Prescribing Information (PI) for Fluzone vaccine has been revised and now states that the tip caps "may contain natural rubber latex." This affects all injectable influenza vaccine manufacturers who use the syringe tip cap supplied by Helvoet Pharma. This unexpected and relatively late change by the FDA is beyond our control, and affected the labeling and packaging for all presentations of Fluzone vaccine, resulting in an impact to our original shipping timelines.

I want to assure you that we are making every reasonable effort to deliver Fluzone vaccine as expeditiously as possible. As always, we are allocating doses as equitably as possible across our entire customer base, in order to ensure that Fluzone vaccine is distributed to a broad spectrum of provider segments. Fluzone vaccine should be received in plenty of time to vaccinate your patients, as influenza immunizations are generally given in September, October, and later, with disease typically peaking in February. Your 6-week shipping window will be opened by the week of August 16, 2010 which will provide visibility into scheduled shipments to support your immunization planning efforts.

We want to thank you again for making sanofi pasteur your partner of choice this influenza season. At sanofi pasteur, we have over 30 years of manufacturing expertise and 2 fully operational US-based manufacturing facilities with the capacity to produce over 100 million doses of influenza vaccine. We are committed to fulfilling all customer reservations for Fluzone vaccine and look forward to supporting your needs throughout the 2010-2011 influenza season. We will continue to provide you with regular updates to help you best prepare for your upcoming immunization efforts.

Indication

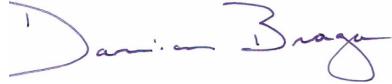
Fluzone vaccine is an inactivated influenza virus vaccine indicated for active immunization of persons 6 months of age and older against influenza disease caused by influenza virus subtypes A and type B contained in the vaccine.

Safety Information

The most common local and systemic adverse reactions to Fluzone vaccine include soreness, pain, and swelling at the vaccination site; fever, malaise, and myalgia. Other adverse reactions may occur. Fluzone vaccine should not be administered to anyone with a history of hypersensitivity to any vaccine component, including eggs, egg products, or thimerosal (the only presentation that contains thimerosal is the multi-dose vial). The decision to give Fluzone vaccine should be based on the potential benefits and risks, especially if Guillain-Barré syndrome has occurred within 6 weeks of receipt of a prior influenza vaccine. The tip caps of the prefilled syringes may contain natural rubber latex which may cause allergic reactions in latex sensitive individuals. Vaccination with Fluzone vaccine may not protect all individuals.

Before administering Fluzone vaccine, please [click here](#) to see full Prescribing Information.

Sincerely,



Damian Braga
President, sanofi pasteur US; Vice President, the Americas

Fluzone vaccine is manufactured and distributed by Sanofi Pasteur Inc.

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